191 industrial concerns is in their hands. But, on
162 the other hand, there are poor Swedish-speaking fishermen in the outer archipelago. In cultural life Swedish long since has ceased to
[578] be the leading language. There has been much controversy between these languages groups. The Finnish-speaking group has greatly resented the special position of Swedish, considering the language to have unproportional privileges and to be a threat to national unity; the Swedish-speaking people have shown separatistic tendencies, regarding themselves as a kind of "chosen people." The recent war did much, however, to lessen this controversy, and even the Finnish speakers have admitted that the Swedish-speaking segment has had its importance in strengthening the ties which bind Finland to Scandinavia.

555 Finnish society thus presents a rare, uniform picture, and mobility within the society is greater than in any other European country. Many of the most prominent persons in public life have risen from "lowly cottages," and perhaps as many with favorable family connections have suck into oblivion. Birth, wealth and education are today not a sure guarantee

●[574] for success. The internal controversies in Finnish society are not economic, but political, with farmers, workers and intellectuals representing different interests; party connections may place a person in a position for which he lacks the necessary qualifications.

575 883 It is no wonder tha societies and youth organizations holding differing political views are among the most prominent in the country.

186 voluntarily was a wise one, in spite of all their bitter losses and sacrifices. But the Finns are fully aware of their precarious situation, living on the edge of a volcano, so to speak, and of their helplessness in case of a fresh disaster.

665 All the same, the people seem surprisingly calm
● 578 and self-possessed; panic and nervousness, they know, will not improve the situation anyway.

The inner frictions in the country, referred to above, have been caused by different groups of people pursuing their own selfish interests. So, the farmers and the workers tend repeatedly to conflict in domestic matters. The agrarians have been the leading party in most of the post-war governments, and they have made themselves unpopular in the eyes of both the intellectuals and the laboring class, who criticize them because of the high taxes and low wages and

665 unwise policies which specifically promote the
●[578] interests of the farmers. In the realm of
foreign politics, however, there are few diff-
641 erences of opinion. Most of the Finns feel that
the decisions made by the government at var-
ious times have been the only possible decisions.
Lately there has been some indication of a ris-
ing opposition to the narrow and selfish programs
of the political parties and an emphasis on the
importance of a more idealistic attitude for the
future of the whole country. There is no doubt
that patriotic feelings are still strong among
the Finnish people.

182 The national movement in the nineteenth
533 century gave rise to fine patriotic poetry and
music. The national anthem of Finland,
Maamme 'Our Land,' first sung in the students'
May festival in 1848, appeared as the opening